

ASSEMBLY, No. 4161

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 28, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman DANIEL R. BENSON

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

SYNOPSIS

Authorizes local units to temporarily make special emergency appropriations for COVID-19 response and recovery.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT authorizing local units to temporarily make special
2 emergency appropriations for COVID-19 response and recovery.
3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*
6

7 1. a. In a fiscal year in which a public health emergency,
8 pursuant to the “Emergency Health Powers Act,” P.L.2005, c.222
9 (C.26:13-1 et seq.), or state of emergency, pursuant to P.L.1942,
10 c.251 (C.App.A.9-33 et seq.), declared by the Governor in response
11 to COVID-19 is in effect, a local unit may adopt an ordinance
12 authorizing special emergency appropriations for expenses incurred
13 by the local unit in its response and recovery that are directly
14 attributable to the COVID-19 emergency.

15 b. A special emergency appropriation made pursuant to this
16 section may be funded pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.40A:4-
17 55.

18 c. A copy of all ordinances or resolutions as adopted relating to
19 special emergency appropriations issued pursuant to this section
20 shall be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government
21 Services in the Department of Community Affairs.

22 d. As used in this section:

23 “COVID-19” means the coronavirus disease 2019, as announced
24 by the World Health Organization on February 11, 2020, and first
25 identified in Wuhan, China.

26 “Local unit” means a county or municipality.
27

28 2. This act shall take effect immediately.
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31 STATEMENT
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33 This bill would authorize a municipality or county to make
34 special emergency appropriations to support its response to, and
35 recovery from, the COVID-19 emergency. This authority would be
36 available in any fiscal year in which a declared emergency in
37 response to COVID-19 is in effect. The bill also authorizes
38 municipalities and counties to issue five-year special emergency
39 notes to fund these special emergency appropriations under current
40 law. This bill would provide municipalities and counties with
41 added financial flexibility to effectively respond to, and recover
42 from, the COVID-19 crisis.